

CONFIDENTIAL.]

No. 48 of 1882.

REPORT
ON
NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 2nd December 1882.



LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Bhárat Shramajíví" ...	Calcutta	2,100	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	"Bhárat Hitaishí" ...	Burrusal	.....
3	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	600	22nd November 1882.
4	"Purva Pratidhwani" ...	Ditto	.....	15th ditto.
5	"Játíya Subrid" ...	Calcutta	.....
6	"Tripurá Vártávaha" ...	Commillah	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
7	"Ananda Bazar Patriká" ...	Ditto	700	27th ditto.
8	"Arya Darpan" ...	Ditto	.....	1st December 1882.
9	"Bangabási" ...	Ditto	.....	25th November 1882.
10	"Bártábaha" ...	Pubna	.....	25th ditto.
11	"Bhárat Bandhu" ...	Calcutta	.....	25th ditto.
12	"Bhárat Mihir" ...	Mymensing	671	21st ditto.
13	"Bengal Advertiser" ...	Calcutta	2,000	
14	"Bardwán Sanjivání" ...	Burdwan	296	24th ditto.
15	"Chárvártá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensing	.....	20th ditto.
16	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca	350	26th ditto.
17	"Dút" ...	Calcutta	.....
18	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	745	1st December 1882.
19	"Grámvártá Prakáshiká" ...	Comercally	.....	25th November 1882.
20	"Halisahar Prakáshiká" ...	Calcutta	.....	25th ditto.
21	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Beauleah, Rájsháhye	200	29th ditto.
22	"Mediní" ...	Midnapore	.....	20th and 27th November 1882.
23	"Murshidábád Patriká" ...	Berhampore	487	
24	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	.....
25	"Navavibhákar" ...	Calcutta	850	20th and 27th ditto.
26	"Paridarshak" ...	Sylhet	.....
27	"Pratikár" ...	Berhampore	275	
28	"Rajshahye Samvád" ...	Beauleah	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh" ...	Kakiná, Rungpore	250	30th November 1882.
30	"Sádháraní" ...	Chinsurah	500	19th and 26th November 1882.
31	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	500	
32	"Som Prakásh" ...	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	.....	27th November 1882.
33	"Sudhákar" ...	Mymensing	.....
34	"Sulabha Samáchár" ...	Calcutta	4,000	25th ditto.
35	"Srihatta Prakásh" ...	Sylhet	440	
<i>Daily.</i>				
36	"Samvád Prabhákar" ...	Calcutta	700	24th to 30th November 1882.
37	"Samvád Púrnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto	300	25th to 29th ditto.
38	"Samáchár Chandrahká" ...	Ditto	625	24th to 29th ditto.
39	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Ditto	500	28th and 29th ditto.
40	"Prabháti" ...	Ditto	.....
41	"Samáchár Sudhábarsan" ...	Ditto	.....
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
42	"Urdu Guide" ...	Ditto	365	25th November 1882.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	HINDI.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
43	" Behár Bandhu "	Bankipore, Patna	500	
44	" Bhárat Mitra "	Calcutta	500	23rd November 1882.
45	" Sár Sudhánidhi "	Ditto	200	27th ditto.
46	" Uchit Baktá "	Ditto	.....	25th ditto.
	PERSIAN.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
47	" Jám-Jahán-numá "	Ditto	250	24th ditto.
	URDU.	*		
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
48	" Akhbár-i-Darussaltanat"	Ditto	.....
	<i>Bi-Weekly.</i>			
49	" Amir-ul-Akhbár "	Ditto	.....
	ASSAMESE.			
	<i>Monthly.</i>			
50	" Assam Vilásiní "	Sibsagar	.....
	URIYA.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
51	" Utkal Dípiká "	Cuttack	200	18th ditto.
52	" Utkal Darpan "	Balasore	160	12th ditto.
53	" Balasore Samvad Váhika "	Ditto	125	16th ditto.
54	" Purusottam Patriká "	Pooree	.....
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>			
55	" Mayurbhunj Pákshik Pátriká "	Mayurbhunj	.....
	HINDI.			
	<i>Monthly.</i>			
56	" Kshatriya Patriká "	Patna	.....

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

THE Purva Pratidhwani, of the 15th November, is exceedingly gratified to find that Government has at length come to recognize the desirability of constructing a railway line from Chittagong to Akyab. PURVA PRATIDHWANI,
November 15th, 1882.

The projected railway to Akyab. It is of course difficult to obtain correct statistics of passenger traffic between Chittagong and Akyab, but the number of persons passing and re-passing through those places cannot be certainly less than five to six lakhs a year. The true number will not be found even by a reference to the figures furnished by Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co's steamers, inasmuch as, owing to the existence of inconvenience and oppression on these steamers, most people prefer going by land ; and yet the steamers are fully crammed with passengers, so that many have to keep standing for want of room. A railway between Chittagong and Akyab cannot fail to attract a large and increasing traffic in passengers and goods, particularly in such articles as rice, pulses, &c. The Editor then proceeds to make a few observations regarding the line of route to be taken by the projected railway. Now there are at present two routes from Chittagong to Akyab—namely the first, which runs through Patia, Satkania, Chakaria, Dulahazaree, across the Garjania hills to Akyab ; and the second, which runs through Anowara and Jaladi, and passing by Chakaria meets the first route, and again starting from a point near Dulahazaree, runs for some distance in the direction of Cox's Bazar. The route now disappears for a distance of six to seven miles, and again starting from Cox's Bazar runs a distance of about 50 miles along the sea-coast until it meets Teknaaf. It is this second route which has been probably selected by Government for the purposes of the railway. But this is objectionable for the reasons detailed below :— Preference has probably been given to the second route, on the supposition that, running as it does along the sea-coast, it might afford facilities for the establishment of a convenient port. But such a supposition would be entirely erroneous. No proper site for a port can be found along the whole distance between Cox's Bazar and Teknaaf, owing to the prevalence of the breakers known along the coast as "Panchgaria." Ships cannot remain at anchor anywhere in these parts except at the Maskal channel to the north-west of Cox's Bazar. This clearly shows that Cox's Bazar is admirably fitted for a port—indeed it is already a port. The fifty miles of route along the sea-coast again are constantly liable to inundations, and this part of the country is very sparsely populated. To cross the Naaf river again, which is six miles broad, is no light task, while if the difficulty was sought to be got over by crossing the hills and touching the aforesaid Arakan road, the length of the line would be increased by at least 50 miles. The Editor would therefore propose that the firstnamed route be selected for the purposes of the railway from Chittagong to Akyab, and that a branch line, 14 to 15 miles long, be constructed from Garjania, through Ramu and Palong (an important trade centre) to Cox's Bazar. The existing Arakan road should be fully utilized for the purposes of the contemplated railway.

2. Referring to the reply made by Dr. Hunter to a deputation which waited upon him at Bombay, the

High education.

Sádhárani, of the 19th November, remarks that

it is clear that some grand change will shortly occur in the matter of high education. The apprehensions of the people are being strengthened that Government is desirous of reducing the expenditure on education in this country. It is clear that the success of the scheme of local self-government will mainly depend on the spread of education ; it is equally clear that withdrawal on the part of Government from the field of high

SÁDHARANI,
November 19th, 1882.

education will seriously jeopardize the success of that scheme. Is Dr. Hunter yet to learn that the people of India eagerly desire high education, and that this education cannot be efficiently imparted without Governmental aid? How small the number of graduates are, Baboo Krista Chundra Raya has shewn clearly. Who knows how long it will take to develop this system of high education? When the time does come for Government to retire from the field of high education, natives like Vidyasagar will not of course be wanting to come forward and establish colleges. In the meantime State aid ought not to be discontinued, otherwise Christian missionaries will reign supreme in the field of high education.

MEDINI,
November 20th, 1882.

3. The *Medini*, of the 20th November, is glad to find that Mr. Beadon, the Collector of Balasore, has strongly deprecated the proposal of Government to excavate a canal, 110 miles long, which should connect the Mitye river with the Hooghly. Now these canals always prove losing speculations to Government. They never return profits sufficient to pay the interest on the capital expended. As navigable canals they bring some revenue to Government, but are positive failures for irrigation purposes. The Midnapore canal has brought untold miseries upon the inhabitants of Midnapore.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
November 20th, 1882.

4. The *Naravibhákar*, of the 20th November, contains an article on Mr. Hume's letter to the *Pioneer* newspaper on local self-government. The Editor fully recognizes the difficulties of Lord Ripon's position, and the opposition he has had to encounter in his efforts to introduce local self-government among the people of this country. The people are, however, not unduly impatient. They are fully confident that Lord Ripon is not a man to hold out to them false hopes, but as they fear that his noble scheme may be rendered fruitless if it is not carried out during his term of office, they press for action. Nor do they clamour for a speedy and full development of the policy indicated by Lord Ripon. The work must of course be gradual, but it must be at once taken in hand. The apathy of the people is strongly condemned.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

5. The same paper asks Government to take into consideration the question of the low pay allowed to native Assistant Surgeons. As "supernumeraries," they are now transferred and re-transferred from place to place on Rs. 50 a month, and subjected to considerable hardship. There will be no improvement in the character and efficiency of native Assistant Surgeons until their pay is so increased as to place them beyond the risk of temptation. As it is, the efficiency of the Subordinate Medical Service is being gradually impaired owing to the increasing reluctance of competent men to enter it. Many of those who at present fill its ranks are even said to dread being summoned to a court to give medical evidence. The whole subject should receive the careful consideration of Government.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

6. The same paper regrets to find that Mr. Thompson is an advocate of the excise policy of his predecessor. The introduction of the outstill system has led to a fearful increase of drunkenness among the people of this country. It is to be regretted, however, that Government, guided by considerations of revenue, persistently ignores this fact. This is really a serious matter inasmuch as the question is one of social demoralization.

CHÁRU VÁRTA,
November 20th, 1882.

Agricultural Banks.

7. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 20th November, while it thanks Major Baring for his generous desire to confer benefits upon the people of this country, is yet of opinion

that his proposal to establish agricultural banks is one which, if adopted, will be productive of injurious consequences. Government should not ordinarily be a direct party to such transactions. The condition of the agricultural classes will not be improved until there is an augmentation of wealth in the country. The opening of agricultural banks, instead of serving this important purpose, will rather aggravate the poverty of the cultivator by making it easy for him to obtain loans. Even if the banks were established by private parties, still the mere fact that Government must have some connection with them would be enough to turn them into engines of oppression.

8. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 27th November thinks that, as Reform of the Civil Service. the success of the scheme of local self-government depends upon the hearty co-operation of

the natives, so the same hearty co-operation on their part is necessary in another matter, namely, the reform of the Civil Service. Lord Ripon has recently made himself very unpopular with Civilians by proposing to reduce their number, pay, duration of leave, and other privileges to the Secretary of State. The Civilians have united to thwart his plans. They are much discontented at the prospect of the reduction of those privileges which they have enjoyed uninterruptedly almost from time immemorial.

In the days of the East India Company the Civilian was a necessity, but now times are so altered that it is not at all necessary to allow so highly paid a class of officials to retain as formerly all their privileges and perquisites. The opening of the Suez canal, the introduction of railways and telegraphs, and hundreds of other inventions of a like nature have brought England within easy reach of India. The Civilians can return to their homes, see their friends and relations within a very short time. The inconveniences for which they were formerly paid so highly being now completely removed, why should not their pay and privileges be reduced also? Moreover, the task of governing India has now become considerably easier than in those days when the country was new, and the manners, customs, and laws of the people unknown. Above all, there is now a highly educated class of natives who are not inferior to Englishmen in respect of ability, integrity, and administrative talent. Why then should an expensive commodity be imported from England when one of equally good quality is available in India?

9. The same paper makes the following observations in an editorial paragraph :—

The conduct of Mr. Wigram, the Judge of Salem, in dealing with The Salem riot case. the great Salem riot case, will very likely have the effect of making Salem a desert.

He has pronounced the sentence of transportation on several of the accused, and no one yet knows how many more will undergo a similar fate. The attitude of the local authorities throughout the long quarrel between the Hindus and Mahomedans plainly shows that, though not intentionally, they were still the real cause of the troubles. They remained indifferent when the Hindus prayed for redress; they neglected to protect the Hindus even when their prayer was based on the orders of the High Court; they were, it would seem, sleeping at the time of the riots when so many were killed and wounded. If Mr. Wigram had acted with fairness the public might have pardoned the authorities. In his judgment he says that his object in severely punishing the offenders is to repress the hostile feeling so rampant in Salem between the Hindus and Mahomedans. He even goes so far as to hint that, if Government wants to show mercy to the convicted, it should do so two years hence, when the hostile feeling will cease to exist.

In pronouncing the sentences, Mr. Wigram has acted against the verdict of the assessors, who all pronounced them not guilty. He has

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
November 27th, 1882.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

believed in the statements of those witnesses who have plainly contradicted themselves, and disbelieved the testimony of respectable gentlemen. One of the witnesses was put into the jail for four days because he had confessed he had been tutored b^w the police, and was not set at liberty till he gave such evidence as was pleasing to the authorities. Arbitrary conduct like this is not pardonable, even after a great political convulsion like the Sepoy Mutiny. Abdulla and Sher Ali, the assassins of Justice Norman and Lord Mayo, received kinder treatment than this. Mr. Wigram seems to have been determined to put, if not the whole population of Salem, as many thousands as he could, into jail. The article ends with a prayer to Lord Ripon to send an impartial Judge to Salem.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
November 27th, 1882.

10. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 27th November, fully approves of Mr. A. C. Hume's proposal for the increase of the native element of the Civil Service, but thinks that the pay of the native members should not be fixed on a scale different from that of the European members, inasmuch as distinction on the point of pay is very likely to be demoralising to the service generally and injurious to its interests. The writer admits the necessity of making financial savings, but is of opinion that savings should be made not by giving lower pay to the native members of the Civil Service, but by reducing the pay of the European members. He admits that the European Civil Service presents too strong a front to a Viceroy who may be desirous of reducing their pay, and that the European press generally ranks itself on the side of the European Civil Service on this question, leaving few influential men to side with and support the Viceroy. But he thinks that the European Civil Service ought to take note that their opposition to native interests serves only to increase native opposition against them, and having done so, to prudently give in.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

11. The same paper takes an unfavourable view of the proposals recently made by Lord Ripon regarding the Roorkee College. The writer thinks that the lowering of the standard of general education now insisted upon in the case of persons intending to enter that college will have the effect of lowering the intellectual status and professional acquirements of the men whom the college will henceforth send out. Those men therefore will fall in public and professional estimation compared with Cooper's Hill men, who cannot now claim superiority to Roorkee men. One consequence of this will be the lowering of the professional prospects of the Roorkee men and the elevation of Cooper's Hill at the expense of Roorkee. The writer also expresses himself strongly against the proposal that, if fit Roorkee men are not found for any appointments, the appointments will be given to Europeans. The writer asks, why to Europeans, and not to Bengal, Madras or Bombay men? He thinks that the Punjab, Oudh, and the North-Western Provinces will gain very little by the proposed changes, whose only effect will be to promote the interests of Cooper's Hill at the expense of Roorkee, and benefit English parents at the expense of the Indians. Henceforth Roorkee, as much as Cooper's Hill, will exist only for Europeans. Lord Ripon, it is thought, has made another mistake.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

12. In noticing Lord Ripon's speech at the Punjab University, the same paper, while recognising the importance of his Lordship's view regarding the desirability of having different systems of study, argues that in the present circumstances of the Punjab, where Western education has made no progress whatever, that view should have been subordinated to the absolute necessity of giving the first place to the study of English literature and science in that province. An Oriental University would have been an exceedingly good thing in Calcutta, where the people have received a large

Lord Ripon's speech at the Punjab University.

amount of English education ; but in the Punjab a University for oriental studies, with only a very subordinate place for European studies, is an injudicious institution. But inasmuch as the thing is done, the writer hopes that the chiefs and noblemen of the Punjab, who have helped the new University with pecuniary contributions, will see that their money is not spent in the comparatively fruitless study of ancient poetry and rhetoric, but is applied to the study of ancient Indian science in the light of modern European science.

13. The same paper hopes that no special college for Mussulmans will be established at the public expense. The opening of B. A. classes in the Calcutta Madrissa ought to be enough. There could not be any objection to the opening of a separate college for them, if that could be done without spending much public money. But if that is done, it is hoped that the College will have nothing to do with religious instruction.

14. The *Sádháraní*, of the 26th November, thinks that Sir Richard Garth's minute on the Rent Bill is written in the spirit of a zemindar's advocate, and observes,

Sir Richard Garth on the Rent Bill. with reference to his Lordship's argument, that as the zemindars alone have sought legislative aid, the rent law should only have been revised in their interest, and not in that of the ryots ; that it is not true that the ryots have not made their case known to Government. In every enhancement suit, the ryot has contested the zemindar's demand as unjust. Thousands of ryots in the districts, of Hooghly, 24-Pergunnahs, Midnapore, Burdwan, Nuddea, and Beerbboom have made joint representations of their grievances, and those representations have been placed before Government in the shape of memorials. The Pubna riot, which gave birth to the idea of revising the rent law, was virtually a public representation of the ryots' grievances by the ryots themselves. How can it be then said that the ryots have not asked for legislative help ? The grievances of the ryots are also represented in vernacular newspapers. Supposing, however, they have not done so, is it right to hold that the Government should not think for those who have no voice of their own ? The writer also points out a passage in Sir Richard's minute, in which his Lordship himself says that very unfair means, such as forging receipts and making false jummabundis, are not uncommonly resorted to by zemindars in order to enhance rent.

15. The same paper thinks that the Bill recently introduced into the

Agricultural loans. Viceregal Council, proposing to give loans of money to agriculturists, will probably fail like

the two laws already passed and tried. The writer says that it will be of little use in Bengal and the North-Western Provinces, where the agriculturists have no land of their own to offer as security for loans received by them ; and that the application of the proposed law will probably be confined to the Deccan, where the ryot holds direct from the Government. But in that case the law will be a partial one, than which nothing could be more objectionable. It is also argued that Government loans will not be availed of by the agriculturists if they have to go to private money-lenders for money required by them for other purposes than making agricultural improvements. It is therefore necessary that, if the ryot is to be really helped out of his difficulties, he should be made wholly independent of the private money-lender. And one means of doing that is for the Government to give loans to trading companies in the first instance, and to authorise those companies to advance loans to agriculturist for all purposes at a rate of interest slightly higher than that which they would themselves pay to Government, Government helping them to recover loan and interest from the ryot within a fixed period. By this

NAVABHAKAR.
November 27th, 1882.

SADHARANI,
November 26th, 1882.

SADHARANI.

means the agriculturist would be more likely to benefit than by the procedure contemplated in the Bill, whilst a class of respectable men would in the bargain be enabled to carry on a prosperous business without having to find capital for themselves. Considering the liberal policy of the present Government of India, the writer trusts that some such measure will be adopted, as will really benefit the countless agriculturists of this great country. It is also argued that the causes which led to the failure of preceding enactments of this kind should not be allowed to exist in the proposed law. If heavy costs have to be incurred in the shape of fees for petitions for loans, if loans have to be repaid within very brief periods, &c., as on the previous occasions, the proposed law will be as ineffectual as those which have been already tried.

SADHARANI,
November 26th, 1882.

16. The same paper describes how the people of Bengal are suffering from malarious fever, and says that the virtual indifference of Government to these

Epidemic fever.
terrible sufferings, in spite of repeated appeals for its earnest interference and active help, is a matter for reproach to it. The Government is endeavouring to give effect to large administrative changes, for which it ought to be thanked. But if now, when the Viceroy himself is expected to be in the Capital, and so also the Lieutenant-Governor, attention is not seriously paid to this question with the view of really freeing Bengal from this destructive fever, their love for their subjects will prove to be but an ostentatious profession, and not a genuine sentiment. A pompous Commission doing merely paper work, like that which sat at Krishnagur last year, will do nothing. Such of the people as understand the matter should be consulted about the best means to be adopted. They who suffer are exactly the persons who think constantly about the manner in which they can free themselves from their sufferings, and they are therefore the best persons to be consulted on this subject. The means by which this cruel fever may be put down have been repeatedly pointed out in this paper, but to no effect. Government should give up its attitude of indifference, and earnestly adopt means for the eradication of malaria after hearing what sufferers from the fever, mofussil newspaper correspondents, and local associations have got to say on the subject. Such a course of action would be undoubtedly attended with success. The affair is too gigantic to be left in private hands. The gigantic strength of Government alone can grapple with it.

SADHARANI.

17. Writing on the subject of Magisterial cold-weather tours, the same paper says that up to this time the only Magisterial cold-weather tours. apparent effect of these tours has been increased expenditure and increase of petty litigation in the mofussil. Executive officers do not keep in mind the real object of these tours. The writer hopes that that object, as recently explained by the Lieutenant-Governor in his Resolutions on the reports of Divisional Commissioners, will be henceforth faithfully and loyally attended to. The attention of executive officers is specially drawn to the following points:—

(1.) When on tour, executive officers should bear in mind that they come to the mofussil not to try suits, which they do at head-quarters, but to ascertain the real condition, grievances, &c., of the people, which they cannot do sitting at head-quarters.

(2.) If they have not destroyed the petitions which they have received from people in the mofussil concerning their wants, grievances, &c., since the commencement of the late rains up to this time, they should take them with them into the mofussil, and make enquiries regarding them while on tour.

(3.) They should, in particular, exercise some wisdom, while in the mofussil, in the selection of subjects for enquiry. For instance, where

people are suffering hard from malarious fever, it is nothing short of folly to enquire about local self-government, instead of endeavouring to ascertain how those sufferings of the people can be removed which have forced them to be indifferent to all things save their own personal condition. Executive officers should therefore, when they go to a place, first ascertain what matters are foremost in the minds of the people of that place, and when done with those matters, should deal with other matters, however important.

(4.) The subject of malarious fever should first engage their attention. Health is the first thing, and all changes, whether social or political, are of minor importance. If executive officers attend to other matters before attending to the question of the health of the people, they will be untrue to their position as rulers, and fail to bring to a successful issue the very questions to which they may direct their attention.

18. The *Som Prakash*, of the 27th November, makes the following remarks and suggestions on the subject of giving loans to agriculturists :—

SOM PRakash,
November 27th, 1882.

Agricultural loans.

(1.) Private parties should not be allowed to establish banks for this purpose. Unlike Government, they will look more to their own interest than to that of the ryots, and will therefore take interest at a higher rate than Government. The giving and recovering of loans through Government agency is stated to be a source of hardship and annoyance to the ryot. But if the matter is managed by mofussil postmasters, who have excellent opportunities of ascertaining the resources of all villagers, the hardship and inconvenience of the ryot will be reduced to a minimum.

(2.) Government should only give loans for effecting agricultural improvements. Indian ryots are very improvident. But if they cannot get loans for other than agricultural purposes, they will be compelled to learn thrift.

(3.) The law should provide that no private money-lender shall be able to give loans of money to a ryot who has taken a loan from Government; or if a private money-lender does advance a loan, he shall not be able to recover his money until the money due to Government has been repaid.

(4.) Loans should be given only on the security of land or standing crops. In the case of the latter, the Government security shall be enforced after the zemindar's security has been satisfied; and Government should only advance as much money as may be recovered by the enforcement of the residual security.

19. The same paper objects to the existing system of granting a long winter vacation to schools in this country.

Winter vacation in schools.

Indian boys can work harder in winter than in any other season, and it is therefore unwise to throw them off their work in the cold season, in the sole interest of a few European professors who delight to travel and go about hunting and shooting during the cold months.

SOM PRakash.

20. The same paper says, with reference to the proposed Rent Law, that it would be difficult to make it perfectly unexceptionable on both sides. The best course for the Government would therefore be either to buy out the zemindars and make a direct permanent settlement with the ryot, or to let zemindars remain as they are at present and make a permanent settlement between them and their ryots. If disputes between the zemindars and the ryots cannot be settled for ever, let things remain as they are. It would be unwise, in the hope of effecting a change for the better, to throw both zemindar and ryot into a worse position than they occupy at present.

SOM PRakash.

Rent Law.
Opium and madut consumers in Balasore.

21. The *Balasore Utkal Durpan*, of the 12th November, quoting from the Annual Excise Report, shows that Balasore, with half the population of Cuttack, consumes a larger quantity of opium than Cuttack.

*BALASORE
UTKAL DURPANA,*
November 12th, 1882.

The writer ironically adds—Happy Balasore? What merit did you accumulate in a former birth, that you now possess so many opium-eaters. Let madatee brethren keep on friendly terms with opium-eaters: united, you surpass Cuttack and are invincible.

BALASORE SAMBAD
BAHIKA.
November 16th 1882.

22. The *Balasore Sambad Bahiká*, of the 16th November, states that, though the number of clerks required for Balasore road-cess settlement amlah. settlement operations was comparatively small, there were more than hundred applicants. This fact shows that the number of persons who seek employment keeps pace with that of those who obtain a knowledge of reading and writing. Where can the Government find employment for all who are candidates? Were the educated, instead of seeking Government service, to turn their attention to agriculture and trade the real welfare of the country would be promoted. The object of education is not simply to obtain Government appointments.

UTKAL DIPAKA,
November 18th, 1882.

23. The *Utkal Dipika*, of the 18th November, makes the following remarks in reference to the Moherbhunj Managership. The Moherbhunj Managership :—No order in regard to this appointment has yet been received from Government. It is said that the Maharajah's brother will visit Calcutta, and that the Commissioner will also go there, and that the Lieutenant-Governor will decide the case in their presence. The opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor, expressed in the annual report on the administration of the Court of Wards, is favourable to the petition of Chot Roy Baboo. If it can be shown that his management of Brahmon Ghatee (which post he has held for some time) has been satisfactory, there can be no doubt about his eligibility for the appointment in question.

UTKAL DIPAKA.

Ryots giving notice to relinquish canal water. 24. The same paper refers to the visit of the Collector to Kendraparah, and states that the ryots of nearly 20 mouzahs had given notice that they did not wish to avail themselves of the canal water during the ensuing year. They were informed by the Collector that, if the water was not required, they need not renew their kaboolyats. Should ryots in various other parts imitate this example, what will become of the canals?

25. Referring to the Resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal Management of the khas mehals. on the annual report on the khals mehals, a writer in the same paper says, that from the remarks made by His Honor, it is evident that the management of the khas mehals has not proved satisfactory. The observations made by the Board of Revenue on this subject are most praiseworthy. Simply by showing an increase in the assessment, Revenue Officers commended themselves to previous Lieutenant-Governors. The present Lieutenant-Governor is not to be deceived by this kind of magic. He is a true friend of the ryots. As regards the khas mehals in Midnapore and Khoordah, where the arrears of rents are very large, and where the ryots have so frequently petitioned Government, how can the Lieutenant-Governor commend the management? In reality he has been greatly perplexed by the petition of the Khoordah ryots, and in one part of the Resolution says, "that the petition is now under consideration and that he will shortly address the Board of Revenue on the subject." Can it be that relief will come to the people of Khoordah, and that they will be delivered from their heavy assessment? Much has been said against the settlement of the Khoordah and Cuttack khas mehals. At length, an expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's, Sympathy has greatly encouraged the people who are now thankful to him.

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